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FROM: BONN

TO: Secretary of State

NO: 812, OCTOBER 14, 7 PM

Eur: Der: Bpa/ETL/jerk

662.0026/10-1458

SENT DEPARTMENT 812, REPEATED INFORMATION BERLIN 226.

FOLLOWING IS DPA REPORT OCTOBER 14 DATELINED BERLIN:

OFFICIAL OF SOVIET EMBASSY EAST BERLIN INDICATED TUESDAY SOVIET READINESS FOR TALKS ON SPANDAU. REGARDING RECENT UNOFFICIAL EXCHANGE VIEWS BETWEEN FED GOVT AND WESTERN POWERS ABOUT POSSIBLE DISSOLUTION SPANDAU, OFFICIAL EMPHASIZED FOUR POWER COMPETENCE IN MATTER. LAST TIME SPANDAU DISCUSSED WITH WESTERN POWERS WAS LONG TIME AGO. WESTERN POWERS HAVE SO FAR TAKEN NO INITIATIVE FOR NEW TALKS. RE SOVIET ATTITUDE IN POSSIBLE NEW TALKS, OFFICIAL SAID IN PRINCIPLE QUESTION NOT REPEAT NOT PRIMARY ONE FOR SOVUN ON WHETHER THREE PRISONERS REMAIN IN LARGE PRISON OR ARE TRANSFERRED ELSEWHERE INTO PART OF A PRISON. SOVIETS ONLY WANT ENSURE AGAINST THEIR DOING NEW DAMAGE. ON RELEASE SPEER BEFORE END HIS SENTENCE, SOVIET OFFICIAL EXPRESSED HIMSELF NEITHER POSITIVELY NOR NEGATIVELY. HE NEVERTHELESS INDICATED THAT APPEARANCE FORMER BIG NAZIS IN FED REP INFLUENCED DECISIONS ABOUT FUTURE THREE SPANDAU PRISONERS.

HBS

WDW

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